

Providence, Feb 26, 1884,

Dear Watson,

I am greatly troubled
over the condition of *Alseis* plants
- which are now in a safe and
very comfortable place, but suffered
great injury before removal. May I
ask your advice?

Would you - in case plants are
badly affected with black mould &
papers half rotten with it, endeavor
to retain the specimen - or destroy it
out of hand? In my personal herb
I should make short work of it, some
of the plants so injured are for
Western, perhaps hard to duplicate;
many I can restore at once from my own
collections but not by some collectors.
Is it safe to let my discretion guide
me - and purposely exclude worm-eaten
and moulded specimens? The rooms
I am now in are warm, sunny and
pleasant. The books, however, are in
another building - a long way off.
No hope of a change. Truly, your ever
W. W. Bailey